



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ARI: 0790465-1146

EXCISE

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ACTION MEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 EUR-12 SP-02 SMS-01 INR-10 NSCE-00
DOOE-00 CIAE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 /052 4
-----062418 111125Z /14-6

O P 111024Z OCT 79
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5350
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 12965: GDS 10/11/85 (AMSTUTZ, J. BRUCE) OR-M
TAGS: PEPR AF UR
SUBJ: SIGNS CONTINUE OF STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN PRESIDENT
KAFIZULLAH AMIN AND THE SOVIETS

REF: (A) KABUL 7232, (B) KABUL 7226

1. (C-ENTIRE TEXT)

2. AS WE HAVE REPORTED IN REPTELS AND OTHER MESSAGES, THERE
HAVE BEEN SIGNS SINCE THE SEPT 14 PALACE SHOOTOUT OF SOME
COOLNESS BETWEEN THE SOVIETS AND KAFIZULLAH AMIN. THESE
SIGNS CONTINUE AND HAVE BEEN A HOT SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION
THIS WEEK IN THE DIP CORPS.

3. TO BRING THE DEPARTMENT UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST SERIES
OF SUCH INDICATIONS, I CITE THE FOLLOWING:
-- ON OCT 2, SOVIET AMBASSADOR PUZANOV DID NOT ATTEND
THE CEREMONY INAUGURATING THE POPA PARTY TRAINING INSTITUTE.
HE WAS APPARENTLY INVITED, ALONG WITH CERTAIN OTHER COMMUNIST
COUNTRY DIPLOMATS.

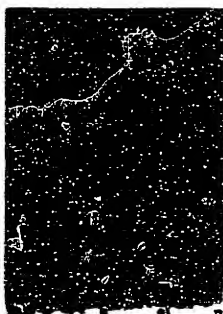
-- ON OCTOBER 6, AT FOREIGN MINISTER SHAH WALI'S

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BRIEFING OF "FRIENDLY SOCIALIST" AMBASSADORS, AMBASSADOR

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PUZANOV DECLINED TO ATTEND AND SENT ACTING
OGM SAPRONCHUK INSTEAD. AT THAT MEETING (SEE REPTTEL
A), FOREIGN MINISTER SHAH WALI ALLEGED THAT AROUND
SEPT 14 THE SOVIET EMBASSY HAD HARBORED PURGED INTERIOR
MINISTER WATANJAR. AT THAT STATEMENT, SAPRONCHUK DIS-
PLAYED EMBARRASSMENT AND WHILE NOT DENYING WATANJAR'S
HAVING BEEN AT HIS EMBASSY, ASKED THE FOREIGN MINISTER
HOW HE CAME TO KNOW ABOUT IT.

SHAH WALI
REPLIED THAT THEY DISCOVERED IT FROM THE KABUL MILITARY
COMMANDER WHO HAD BEEN CONTACTED BY WATANJAR BY TELE-
PHONE FROM THE EMBASSY.

-- YESTERDAY, OCTOBER 10, AMBASSADOR PUZANOV,
TOGETHER WITH HIS INTERPRETER, WAS CONSPICUOUS IN
ARRIVING ONE-HALF HOUR LATE AT THE CEREMONY INSTITUTING
THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. HE DID APPEAR, HOWEVER,
BEFORE HAFIZULLAH AMIN GAVE THE MAIN ADDRESS.

-- DURING THAT AND OTHER ADDRESSED AT THE CEREMONY,
THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR, THE CZECH AMBASSADOR AND THE
POLISH AMBASSADOR WERE OBSERVED TO BE RARELY JOINING
IN THE CLAPPING (AMIN'S SPEECH WAS INTERRUPTED 44
TIMES BY CLAPPING). IN FAIRNESS, THOUGH, TO THESE
AMBASSADORS, THEY WERE SEATED IN THE THIRD (OR BACK)
ROW ON THE SIDE SO THEIR LACK OF CLAPPING WAS PROBABLY NOT
VISIBLE TO MOST AFGHAN OFFICIALS PRESENT. IT WAS ADMITTEDLY
TEDIOUS BUSINESS HAVING TO CLAP SO MUCH, AND I TOO
WOULD HAVE DONE LESS IF I HAD NOT BEEN IN THE FIRST
ROW.

4. COMMENT: AS I REMARKED IN REPTELS, I THINK WE SHOULD REGIST
THE TEMPTATION TO INTERPRET THIS APPARENT COOLNESS AS FORE-
SHADOWING SOME MAJOR SHIFT IN FOREIGN POLICY BY EITHER AMIN
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OR THE SOVIETS. ALL SIGNIFICANT INDICATORS POINT TO CONTINUED
COOPERATION AND MUTUAL DEPENDENCE BY MOSCOW AND THE AFGHAN
PRESIDENT. AMIN'S SPEECH OF YESTERDAY MADE REFERENCE TO THE ORA
BEING CLEARLY IN THE SOCIALIST CAMP OF NATIONS, AND THAT THE
SOVIET UNION HAD ESPECIALLY CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE ORA.
ANSTUTZ

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